

From: Judy Stigger [jstigger@comcast.net]
Sent: Saturday, November 08, 2003 5:12 PM
To: adoptionregs@state.gov

Subject: comment on 96.37(f)

Comments in support of 96.37(f)

I am writing in support of the provision that home studies should be performed by master's level professionals. The training one receives during a master's program concerning early childhood development and family dynamics is exactly the information one needs to assess whether a given family can parent a given type of child, and to then help that family understand the risks, attachment issues, and identity formation issues that they are undertaking. If the regs included a grandfathering clause for current home study workers, as it does for supervisors, agencies and schools of graduate education will find ways to provide master's level home study providers. To think that a bachelor's level education in chemistry or English equips a person to assess a family's potential for raising a challenging child, and to educate the prospective parents as to the challenges they are undertaking makes no sense.

Thank you for allowing my input on this regulation.

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post adoption social worker

11/10/2003